GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1206
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2000
EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has taken up the issue of effective implementation of Essential Commodities Act during the inter-State meeting of Food and Civil Supplies Ministers and officials held on December 24, 1999;

(b) if so, the main issues raised by the Government of Maharashtra in the meeting;

(c) whether this meeting was convene by the Union Petroleum Ministry, in which large scale of irregularities have come to the notice in the sale of Kerosene;

(d) if so, the out come of the talk; and

(e) the steps have been considered to check the irregularities in the sale of kerosene?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREEI PRASAD)
(a) to (e): Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas convened a meeting of Food & Civil Supplies Ministers and Secretaries of States & UTs on 23-24th December, 1999 in Delhi to discuss various issues like allotment and utilization of SKO quotas, streamlining the distribution system of PDS Kerosene, checking of adulteration etc.During the meeting most of the states including Government of Maharashtra raised the issue of effective implementation of Essential Commodities Act and various control orders issued thereunder, checking of adulteration, streamlining of distribution of PDS Kerosene etc.
To check the irregularities in the sale of kerosene the Maharashtra State Government has adopted the following measures: (a) PDS Kerosene is dyed blue to differentiate it from parallel market kerosene; (b) Uniform scale of distribution of PDS kerosene to cardholders in Urban and Rural areas has been decided by the State Government and the double cylinder gas holder consumers are not entitled to kerosene; (c) Special drive has been taken to conduct surprise raids.